

MARVEL

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN™

#10

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA



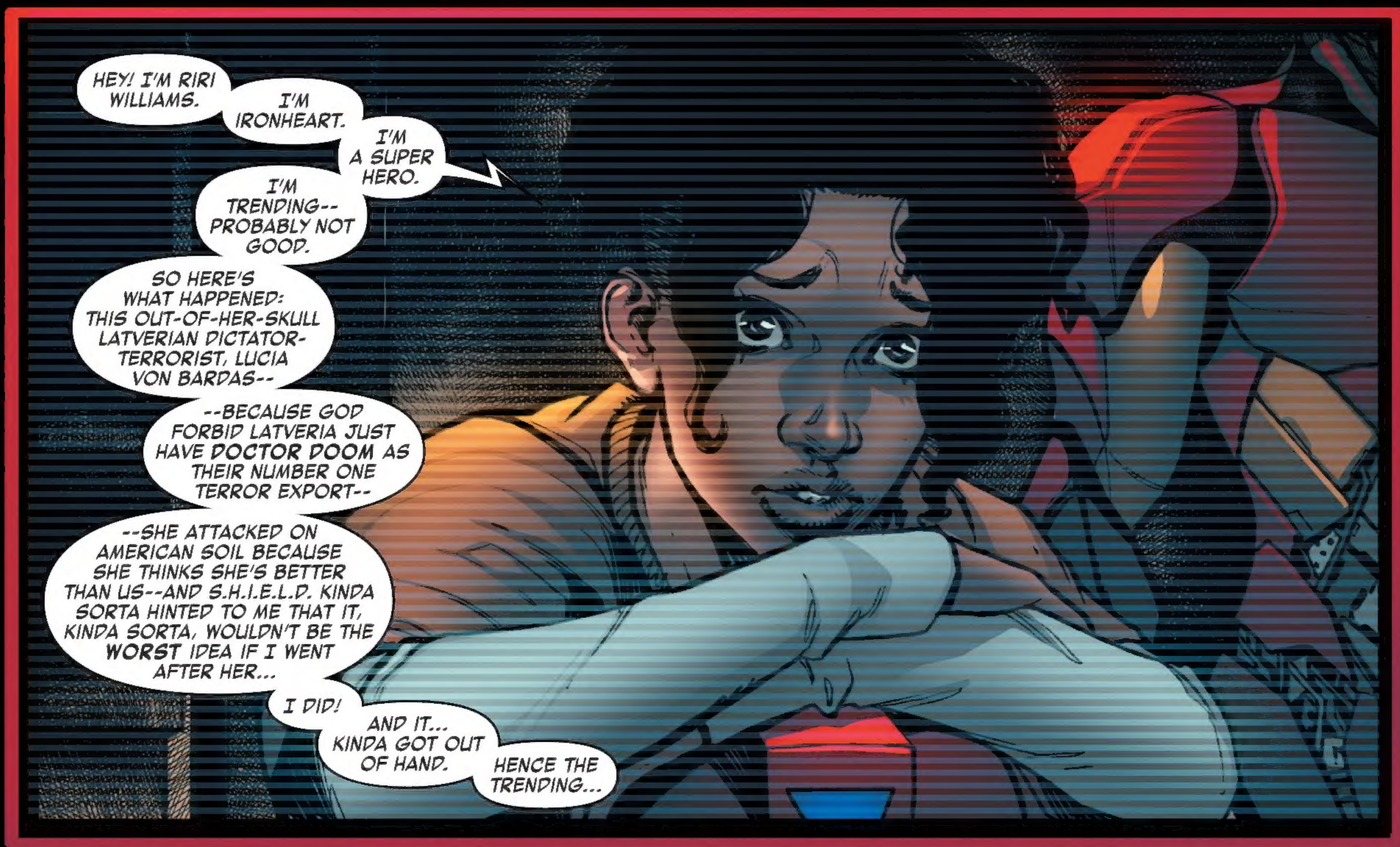
INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

**BRIAN
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BENDIS**
WRITER

**STEFANO
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MARTE GRACIA
with **ISRAEL SILVA**
COLOR ARTISTS

**VC's CLAYTON
COWLES**
LETTERER



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DAN BUCKLEY PRESIDENT **ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK AND JACK KIRBY

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER

FLOATING WORLD HEADQUARTERS OF THE U.N. PEACEKEEPING TASK FORCE. PRESENT LOCATION: OVER LATVERIA.

HMM.

YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA, COMMANDER CARTER?

WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE?

YOU *COULD* JUST LEAVE IT. LET IT WORK ITSELF OUT.

FUNNY.

ONLY HALF KIDDING.

YOU'RE HALF SERIOUS?

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT--

THINK ABOUT IT?

THIS IS NUTS.



DANGEROUS,
EVEN.

YEAH.
BUT
STILL...



WHAT
WAS SHE
THINKING?
I
HONESTLY
WOULDN'T
KNOW.

YOU KNOW
THE DRILL, FURY.
YOU WAIT FOR MY
WORD.

THE
CLOCK STARTS
NOW.



BRILLIANT!
SHARON
CARTER! AT LAST
WE MEET.

GENERAL
KARADICK.
THE "GREEN BEAR"
OF LATVERIA
HIMSELF.



ALL THINGS
CONSIDERED, IT IS NICE
TO MEET YOU.

IS
THIS FOR
REAL?

FOLLOW
ME.



IS THAT
MUSIC?

A
TRIBE CALLED
QUEST.
SHE LIKES
THEM.



HOLD ON
A SEC...

NO, NO.

DON'T
FEED ME, FEED
THE STARVING
CHILDREN.

YOUR
WORSHIPFULNESS,
LADY SHARON OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS CARTERS
IS HERE FOR AN
AUDIENCE.

HEY,
YOU MADE
IT! AWESOME!
WELCOME TO
LATVERIA!



HI.

MISS WILLIAMS.

SO, REMEMBER THAT THING WHERE YOU HINTED...

STRONGLY.

...THAT I SHOULD *MAYBE* FLY OVER HERE TO LATVERIA...?



DID YOU DECLARE YOURSELF QUEEN OF LATVERIA?

HOLD ON.



GENERAL, DID THE RED CROSS SHIPMENT MAKE IT TO THE EAST QUADRANT?

I THINK SO.

COULD YOU CHECK?

SURE.



MA'AM...

MA'AM...



DID YOU DECLARE YOURSELF QUEEN OF LATVERIA?



YOU'RE MAD? I THOUGHT YOU'D--OH, I SEE IT NOW. YEAH.

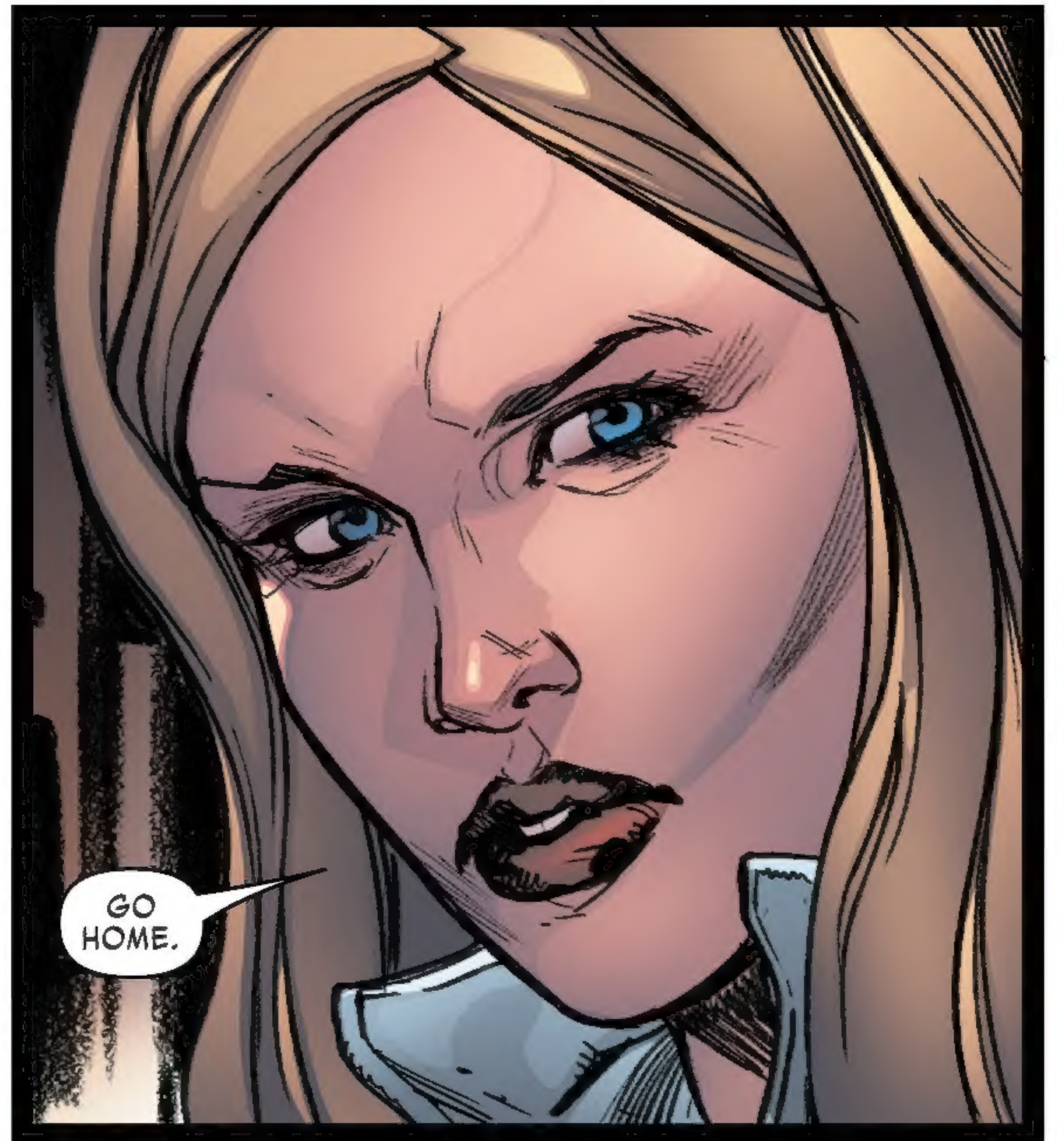


WHO TOLD YOU TO DO THAT?

IT WAS KIND OF AN *IMPULSE* THING MORE THAN A *PLANNED* THING.

UH-HUH.

AND WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS?





NO,
I JUST CAN'T
LEAVE.

THESE
PEOPLE NEED
HELP.

NOW.

I
TOTALLY SUPPORT
THIS.



OKAY,
REWIND.

TELL ME WHAT
HAPPENED.

WITH
EXACTING,
EXHAUSTIVE
DETAILS.



REALLY.

HOLD
NOTHING
BACK.

IT WAS
ADORABLE, ACTUALLY.
SHE WAS MID-FIGHT AND
VON BARDAS ACTUALLY
SAYS--

I'D--
I'D LIKE TO HEAR
HER TELL IT.



I TOLD YOU,
IT JUST KIND OF
HAPPENED.



THIS IS
AN ACT OF
WAR!

YOU HAVE
INVADED MY
COUNTRY!

THIS IS
MY COUNTRY!
THESE ARE MY
PEOPLE!

YOU HAVE NO
AUTHORITY!



FOUR
HOURS
AGO...

WELL, IF THIS WERE
YOUR COUNTRY, THEN I
THINK, BY ANY DEFINITION,
WHAT JUST HAPPENED
HERE IS...

...I JUST
TOOK IT.

SO TRY TO SHOW
SOME RESPECT TO
THE NEW QUEEN
OF LATVERIA!



WAIT,
IS THAT
TRUE?

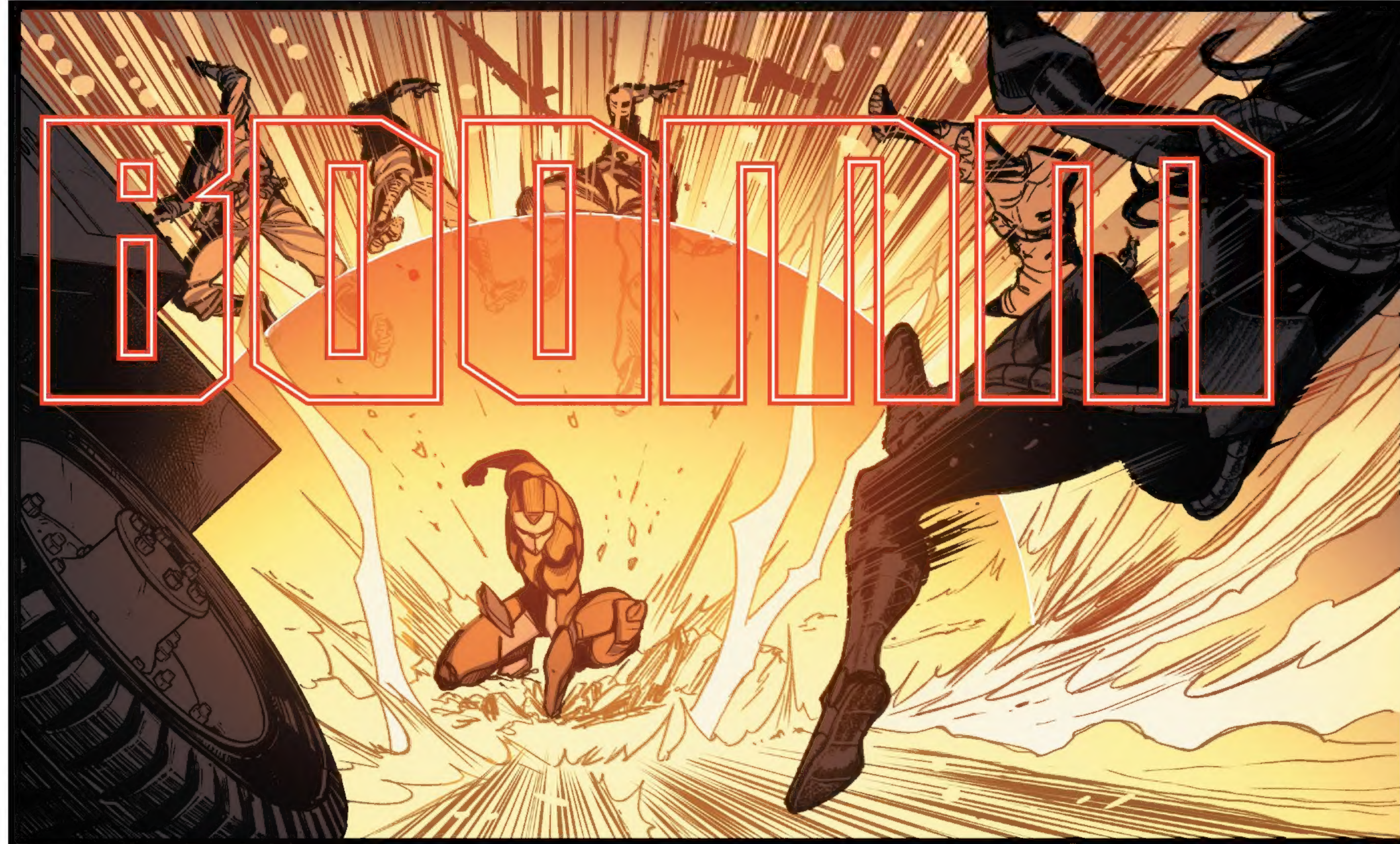
IT KIND OF
TECHNICALLY
IS.



LATVERIA
IS MINE!



NUH-UH.



CHICAGO.

I WANNA
BE WITH YOU,
GOTTA BE WITH YOU,
NEED TO BE WITH
YOU.

I WANNA BE
WITH YOU, GOTTA BE
WITH YOU, NEED TO
BE WITH YOU.

**KNOCK
KNOCK**

SEE,
BABY WE'VE
BEEN--

OH MY
GOD, OH MY
GOD...

IS
SHE--?

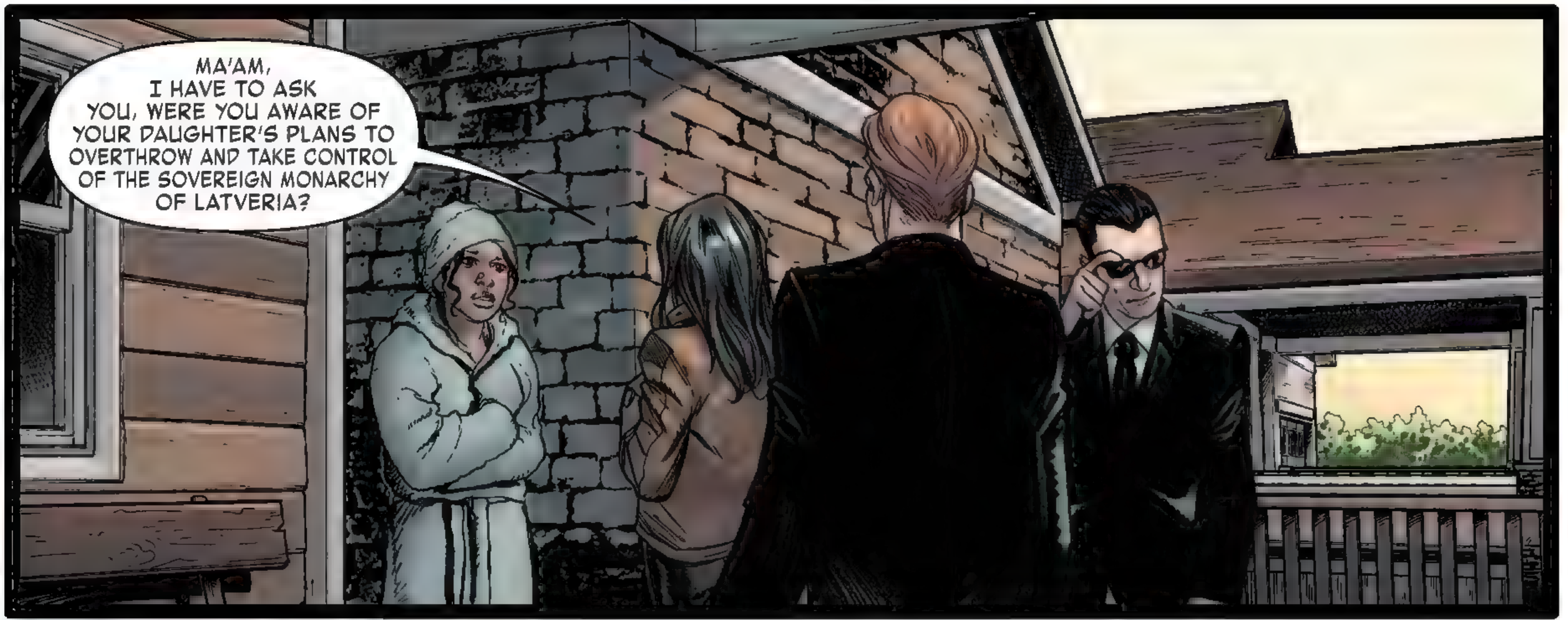
MA'AM.

MY NAME IS
AGENT DAISY JOHNSON.
YOUR DAUGHTER IS--

OH,
NO.

SHE'S
OVERTHROWN
THE GOVERNMENT OF
LATVERIA AND DECLARED
HERSELF ITS SOVEREIGN
LEADER.

SAY WHAT
NOW?



LATVERIA.

WHERE'S LUCIA VON BARDAS?

I'M FREAKING YOU OUT.

ONLY COMPLETELY.

I SAID YOU WOULD.

SURE.

I BEAT THE BAD GUY.

SHE WAS TRYING TO TAKE OVER THIS COUNTRY AND THROW IT AT YOU.

SO I TOOK IT AWAY FROM HER.

DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?

YOU OVERTHREW A GOVERNMENT.

I DON'T WANT TO UNDERMINE THE ACHIEVEMENT, BUT IT'S REALLY--IT'S NOT MUCH OF A GOVERNMENT.

BAM BAM BAM BAM
BAM BAM BAM BAM

BOOM

DEATH TO OPPRESSION!

GIVE US BACK OUR HOME!

HEY!
NO!
WE'RE NOT DOING THIS!

AGENTS, FALL BACK!



NO! HEY! EVERYBODY SETTLE DOWN.



HEY, THEY'RE JUST KIDS AND THEY'RE MAD ABOUT EVERYTHING AND THEY'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.

STOP! HEY! NO!

I MEAN IT.

DROP THE WEAPON OR I'M TAKING YOURS AWAY, TOO!



YOU. WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?

IGOR.

WELL, IGOR, YOU NEED TO CHILL IT ALL THE WAY DOWN.

I--I BELIEVE IN LATVERIA.

GOD BLESS.

PUT THE GUN DOWN.



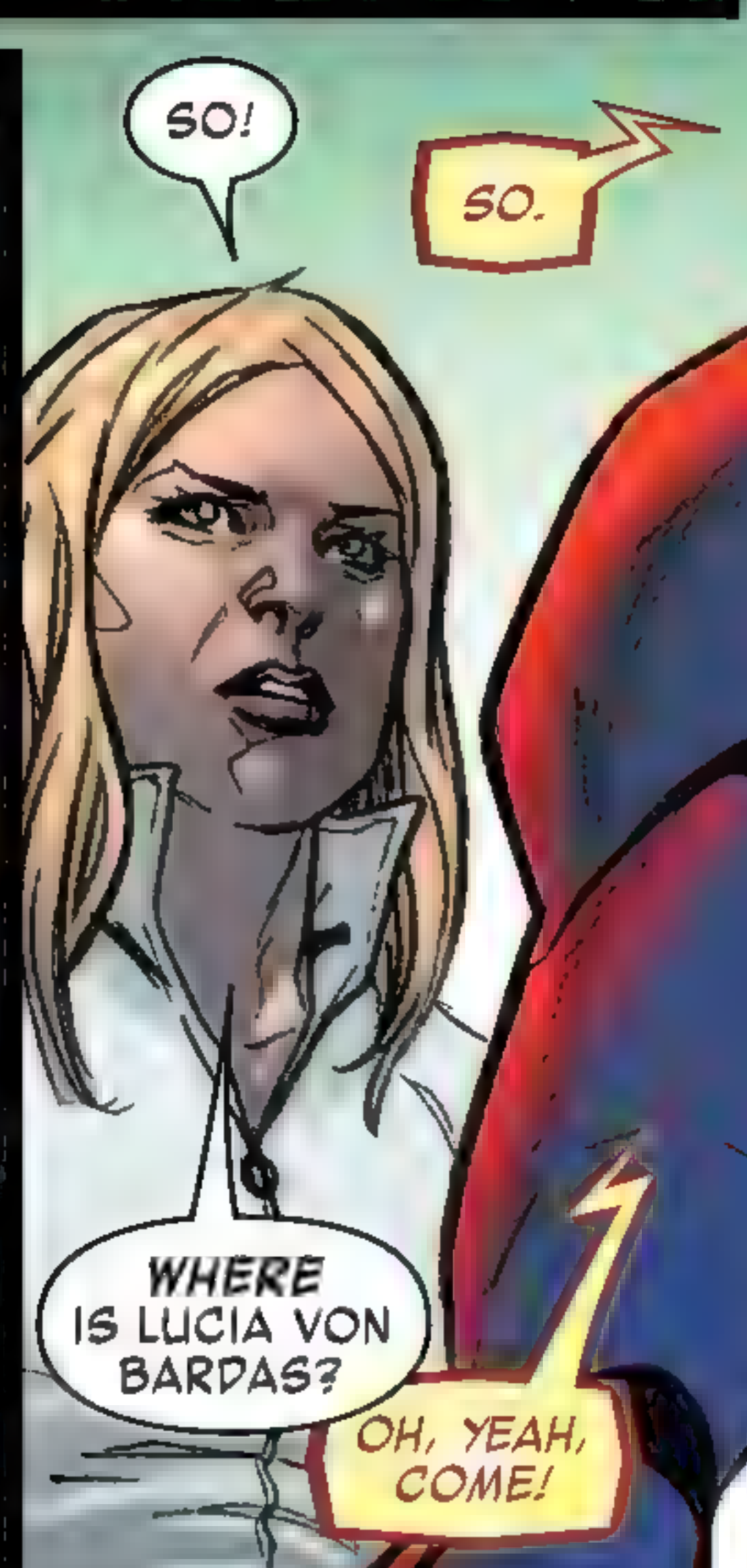
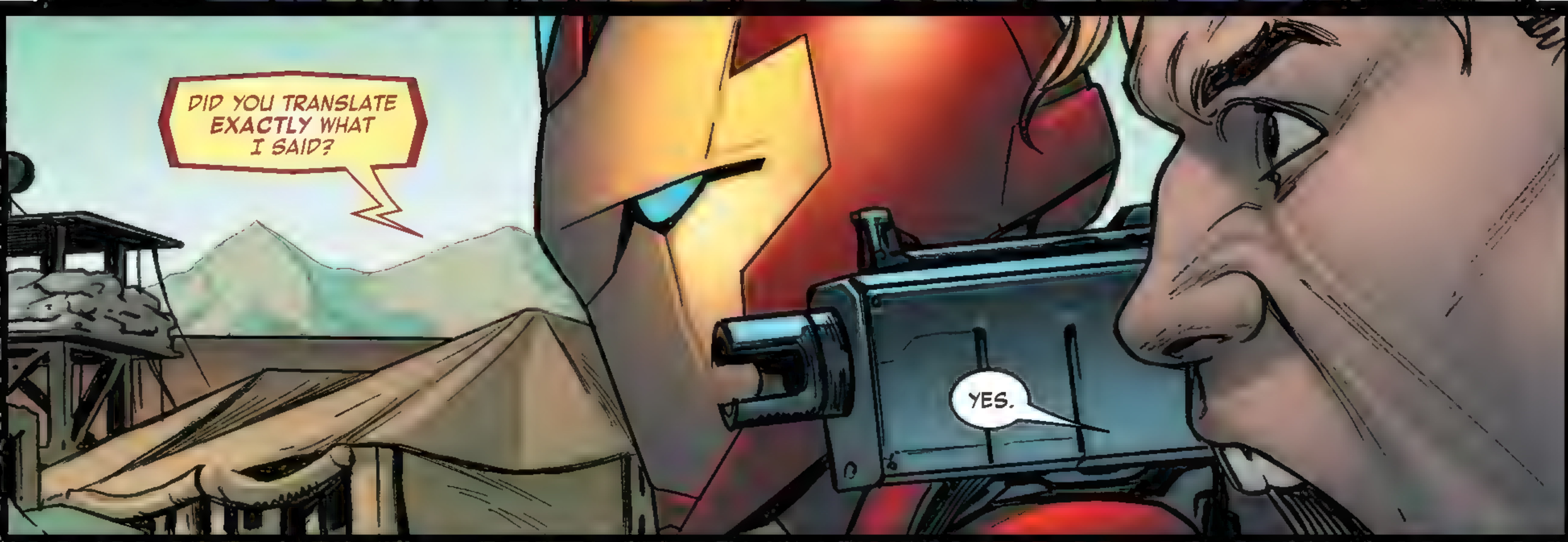
HEY, YOU'RE NOT UNDER ARREST!

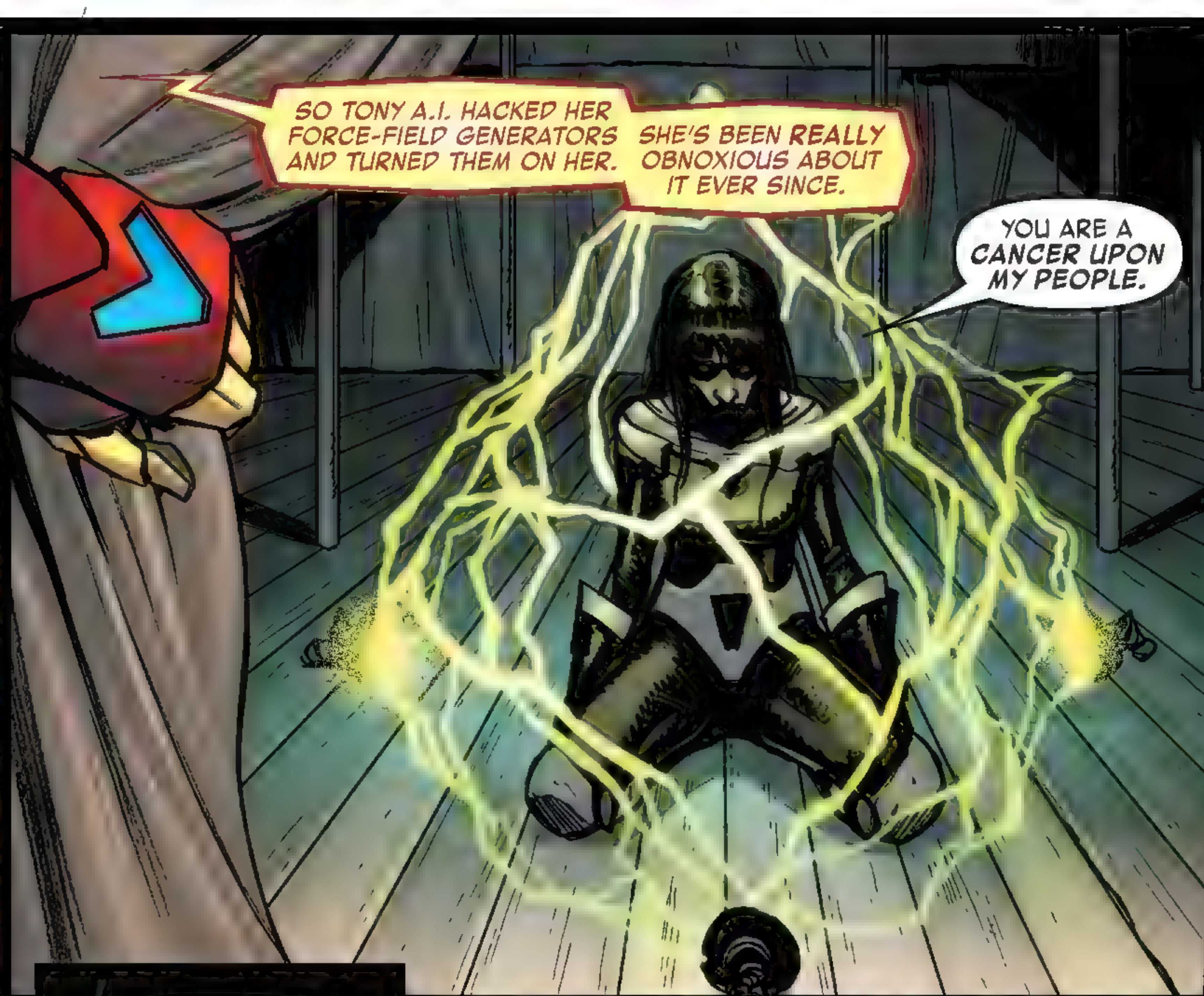
WHY DON'T YOU GUYS GO ON HOME WHILE WE FIGURE THIS ALL OUT?



CAN ANYBODY TRANSLATE THAT FOR ME?

HOW DO YOU SAY "GO HOME"?





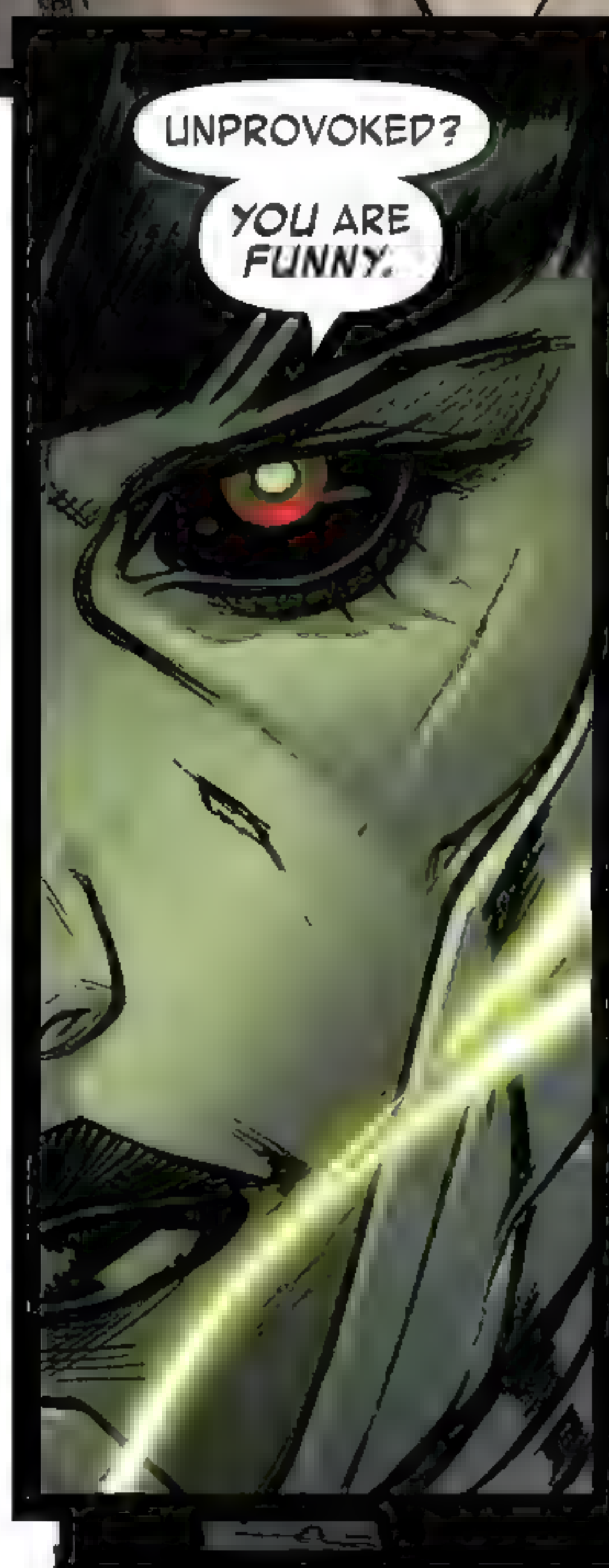
SO TONY A.I. HACKED HER FORCE-FIELD GENERATORS AND TURNED THEM ON HER. SHE'S BEEN REALLY OBNOXIOUS ABOUT IT EVER SINCE.

YOU ARE A CANCER UPON MY PEOPLE.



SEE, NOT ONE NICE THING. NOT ONE.

LUCIA VON BARDAS, YOU ARE HEREBY OFFICIALLY UNDER S.H.I.E.L.D. ARREST FOR THE UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON THE SMITHSONIAN.



UNPROVOKED? YOU ARE FUNNY.



YOU CAN TELL YOURSELF ALL ABOUT IT IN THE LITTLE HOLE YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE IN FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

YOU WILL WATCH YOUR COUNTRY BURN TO THE GROUND!

AND THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL LAUGH AS--!

OH, HEY, LADY, BEFORE YOU GET A REAL HEAD OF MONOLOGUE STEAM GOING...

...REMEMBER A TEENAGER JUST KICKED YOUR ASS IN HOMEMADE ARMOR.

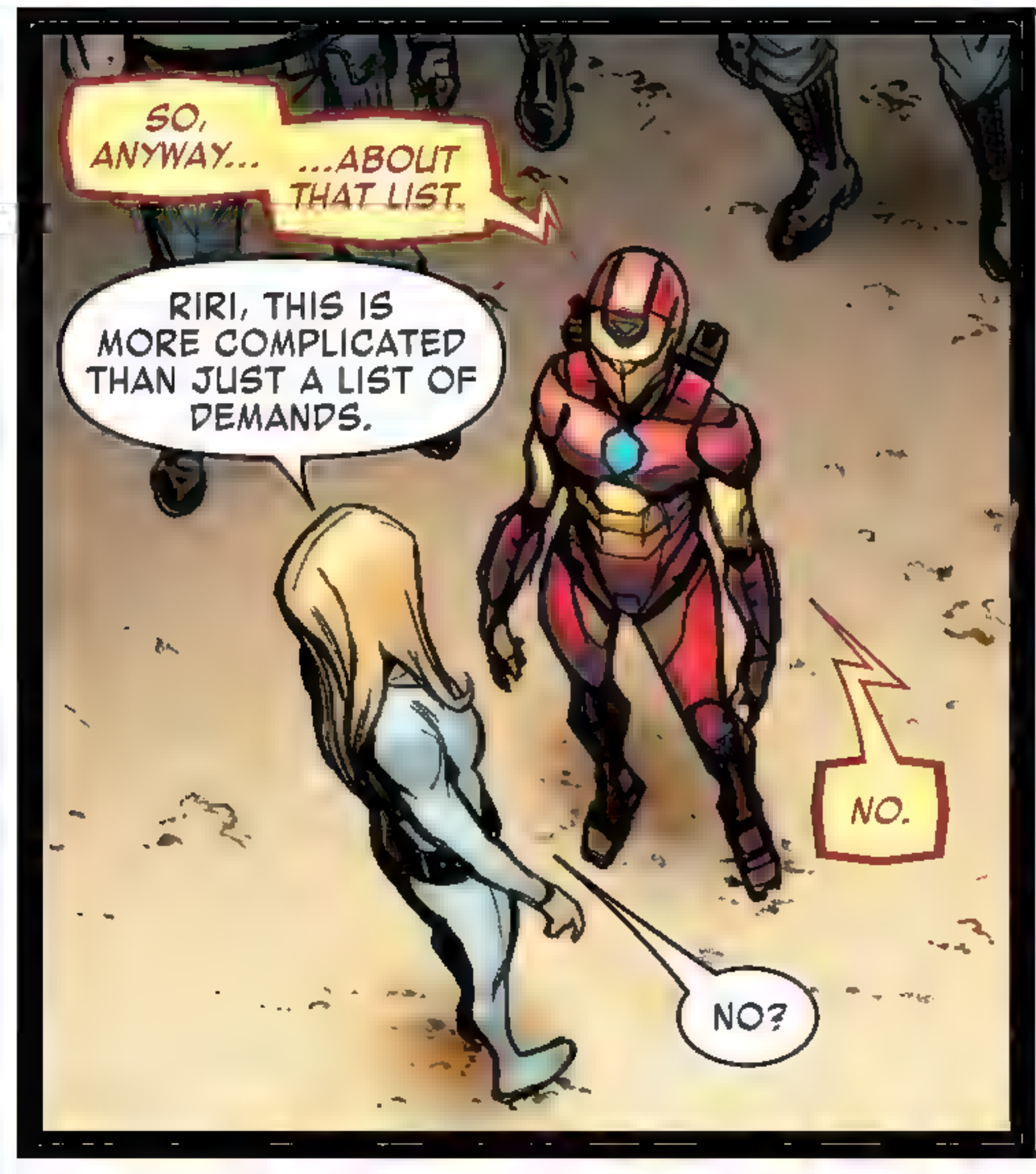
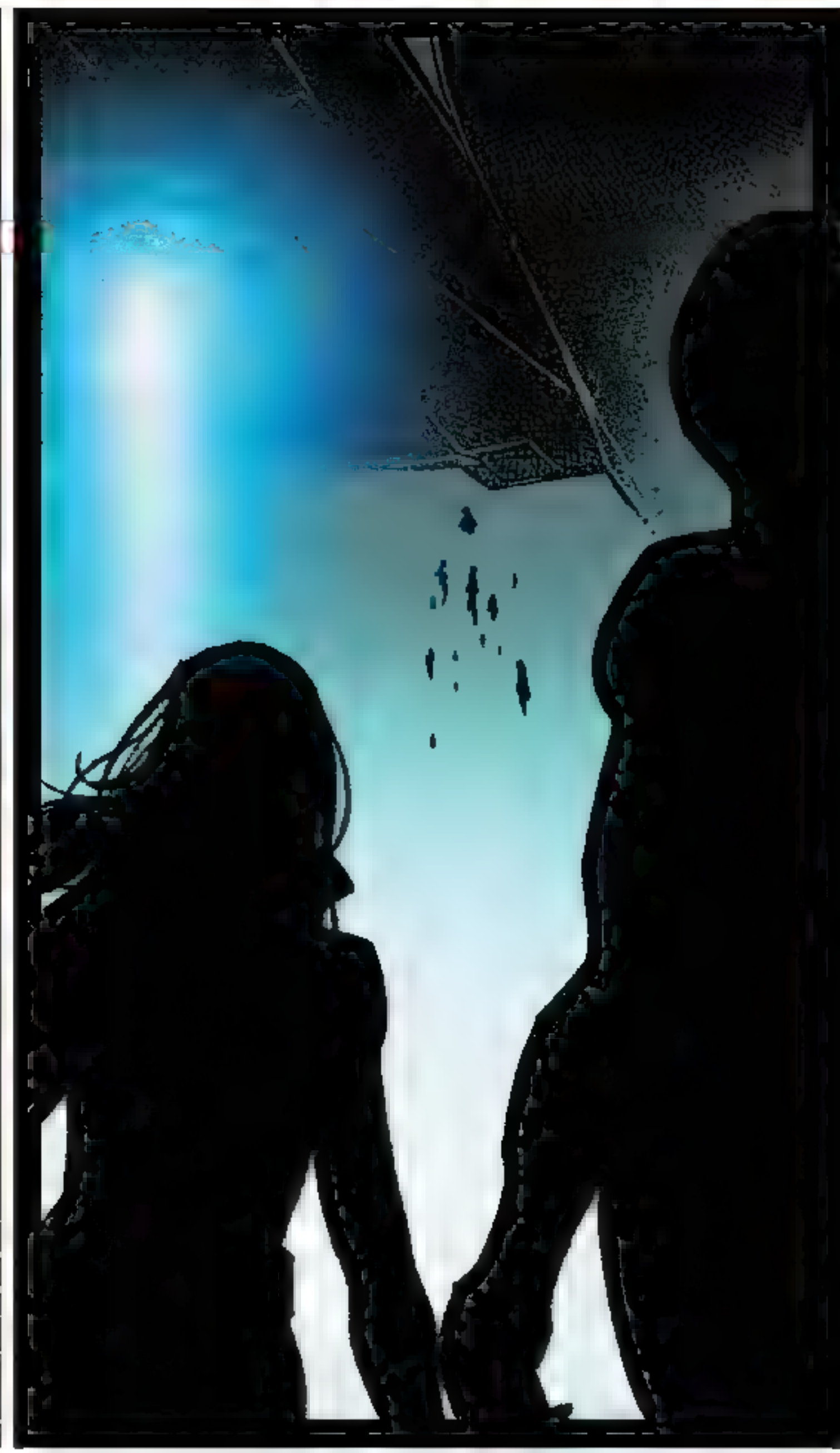


I THINK IT'S HER THIRD FIGHT.

FIFTH.

YOU PROFIT FROM A WORLD OF LIES.

NOT AS MUCH AS YOU'D THINK.

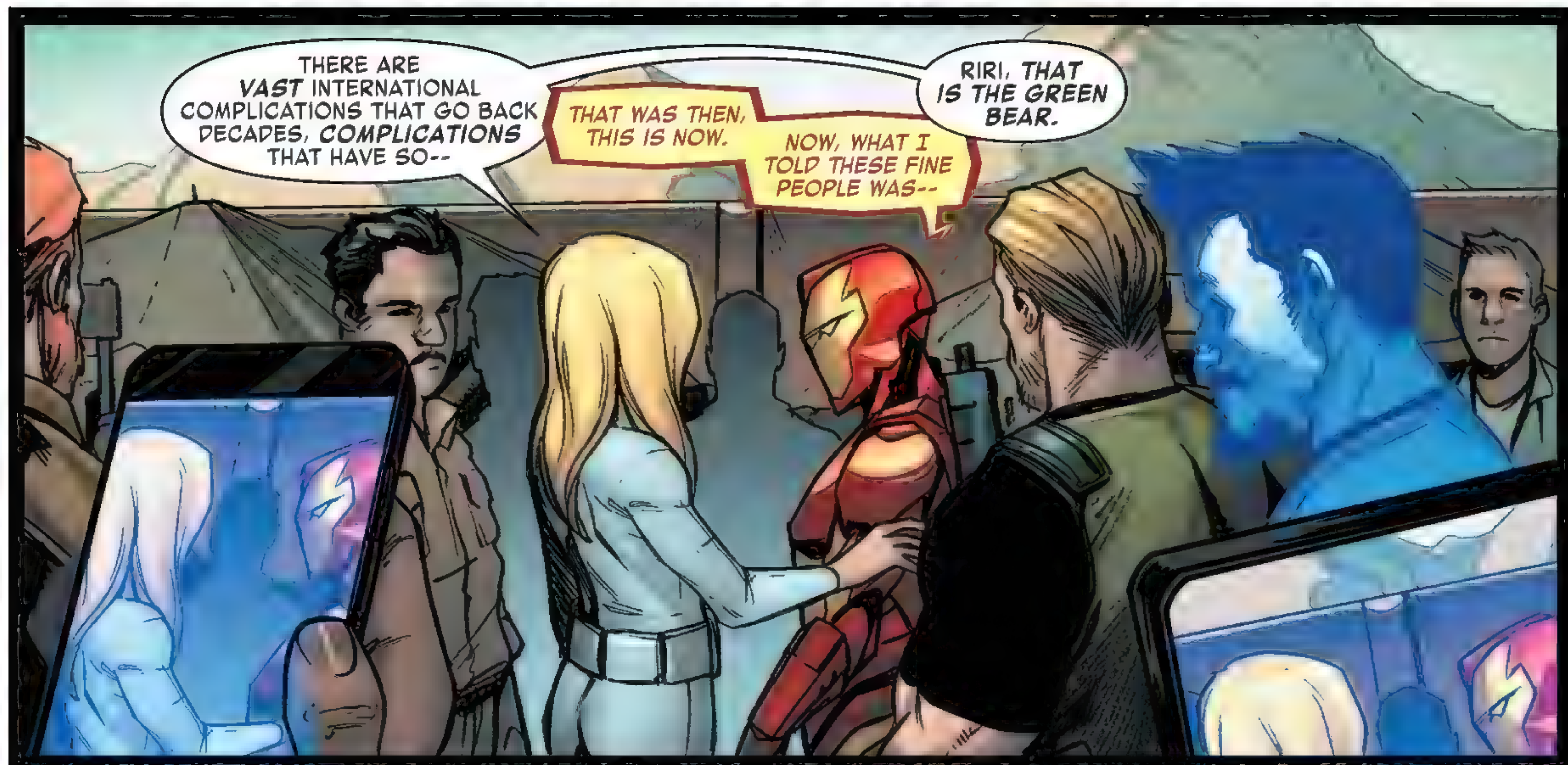


SO, ANYWAY... ...ABOUT THAT LIST.

RIRI, THIS IS MORE COMPLICATED THAN JUST A LIST OF DEMANDS.

NO.

NO?



THERE ARE VAST INTERNATIONAL COMPLICATIONS THAT GO BACK DECADES, COMPLICATIONS THAT HAVE SO--

THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW.

NOW, WHAT I TOLD THESE FINE PEOPLE WAS--

RIRI, THAT IS THE GREEN BEAR.



GENERAL KARADICK. YES.

I HAVE GOOGLE IN THIS SUIT AND EVERYTHING.

HA!

DID YOU GOOGLE THE PART WHERE HE IS LEADING A HARDLINE MILITARY OVERTHROW OF THIS ENTIRE REGION?



ACTUALLY, TO HEAR HIM TELL IT, HE AND HIS MEN FELT ABANDONED BY THE WORLD AFTER DOOM UP AND LEFT THE COUNTRY.

AND WITH NO ONE TO TURN TO, THEY TURNED TO EACH OTHER.

AND WITH NO RESOURCES OR HELP THEY WERE FORCED TO TAKE A HARD-LINE MILITARY STANCE BECAUSE THERE WAS NO OTHER SUBSTANTIVE RECOURSE--

RIRI--



DID I GET ANY OF THAT WRONG?

NO.



SO, ALTHOUGH YOU FEEL THREATENED, THEY FEEL ABANDONED.

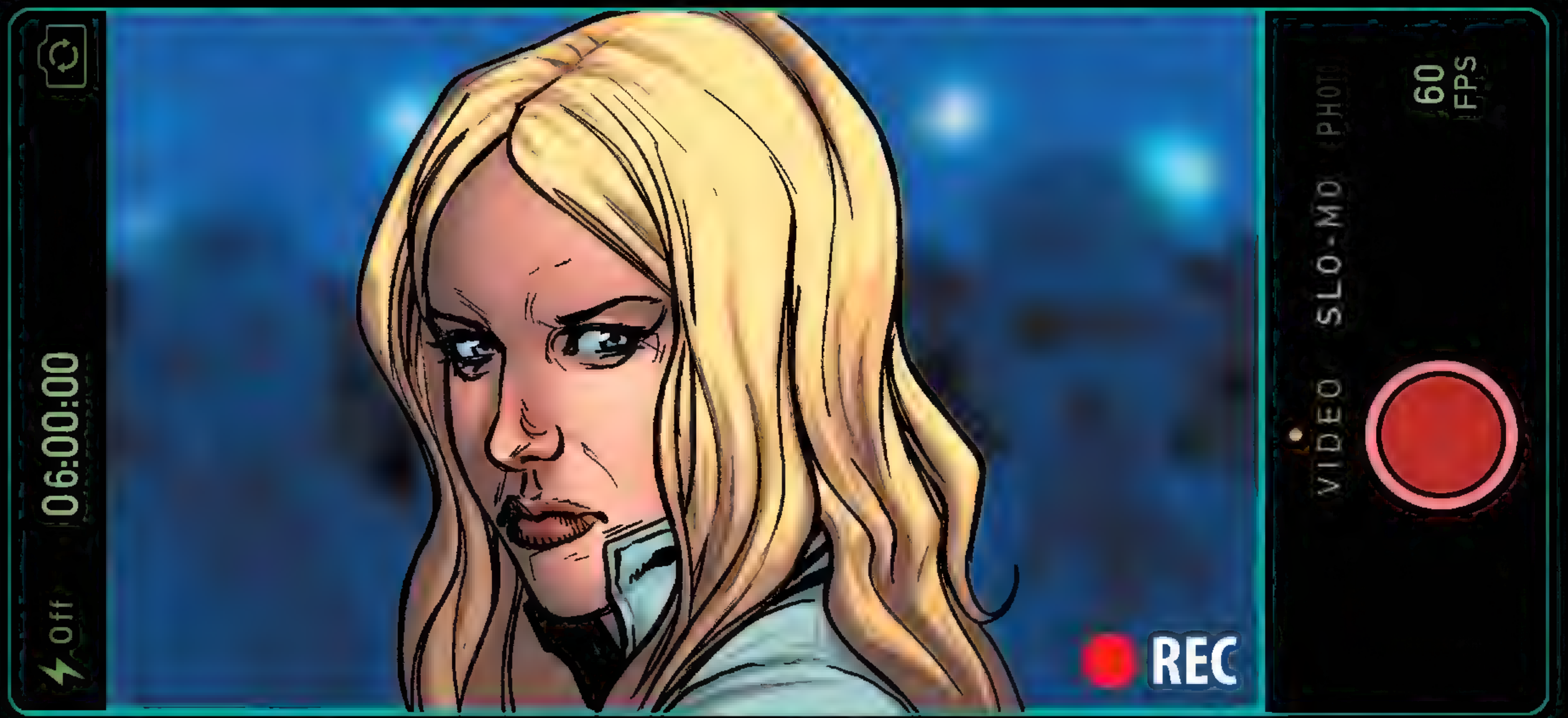
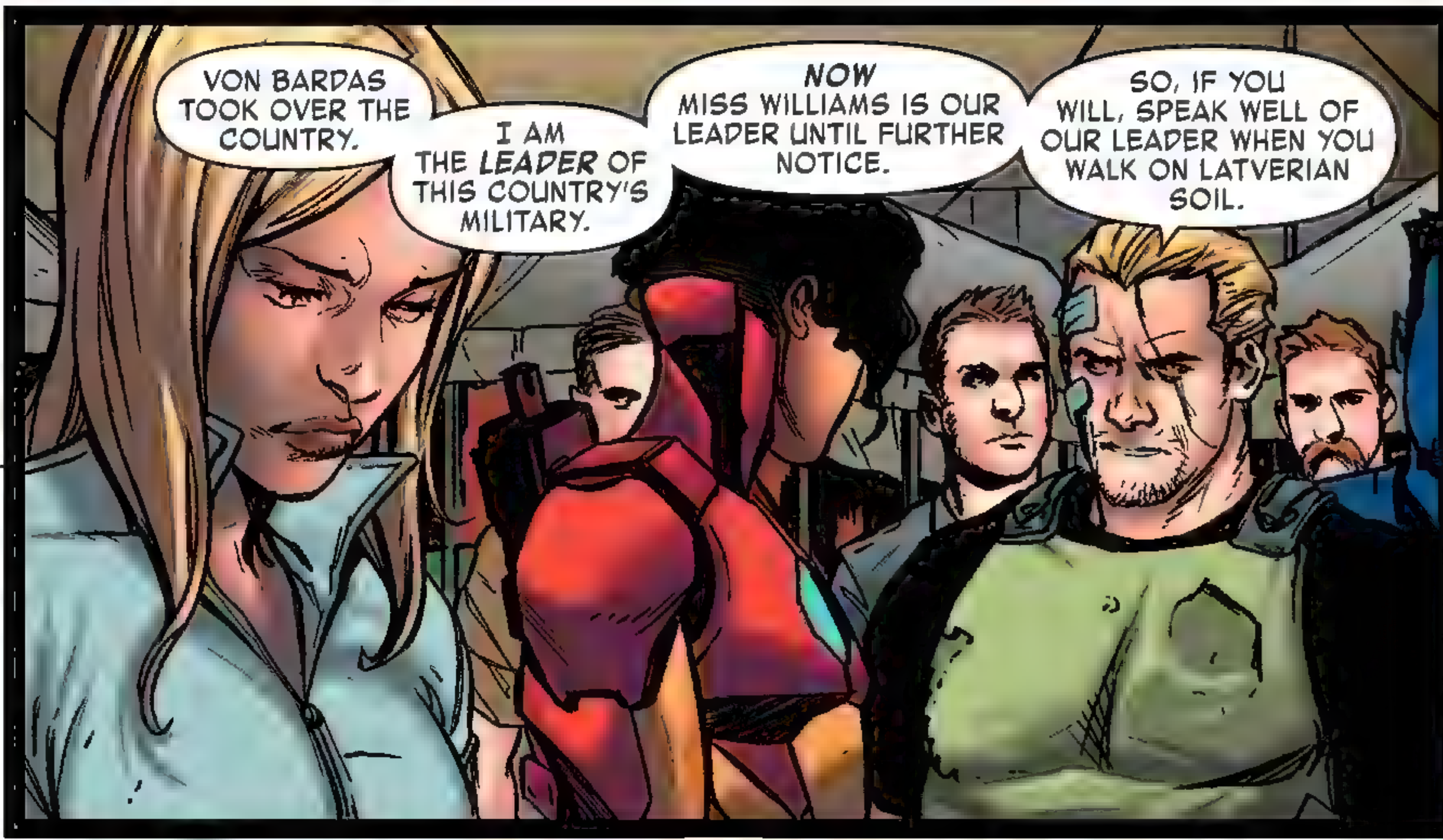
BOTH PRETTY LEGITIMATELY.

IT SEEMS LIKE A COMMUNICATION PROBLEM. PRETTY MUCH.

I HAVE OFFERED TO SIT DOWN WITH S.H.I.E.L.D.

ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS.

YOU WERE JUST HARBORING A TERRORIST!



LATVERIA TO HOLD FIRST FREE ELECTIONS

**NEW HOTNESS
IRONHEART SEALS THE
IMPOSSIBLE DEAL?
HOW OLD IS SHE?**

**THEY CALL THEMSELVES
THE DEFENDERS!**

FIND OUT WHY!



see pages 5, 7, 9

CHICAGO.

OH! GOOD EVENING, YOUNG LADY!

HEY, MOM.



IS THERE DINNER? I COULD EAT MY OWN FOOT.

I'VE BEEN FLYING ALL OVER THE PLACE.

UM, SWEETIE, THIS S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT CAME BY THE HOUSE AND SAID YOU TOOK OVER A COUNTRY.

BABY.

I GAVE IT BACK.

SCHOOLS.

THERE ARE GOING TO BE SCHOOLS THERE AGAIN.

THEY DIDN'T HAVE SCHOOLS.

BUT AFTER TODAY, THEY ALL GET TO GO TO SCHOOL.



I'M FREAKING OUT!

IT WAS CRAZY AND I TOTALLY ACTED LIKE NO BIG DEAL, BUT--ALL I KEPT THINKING WAS... SCHOOLS.



YOU'RE FIFTEEN YEARS OLD.

YOU TOLD ME I COULD DO ANYTHING.

YOU SAID IT VERY CLEARLY.

~SNIFF~



BUT, MOM, THINGS ARE GOING TO GET A LITTLE DICIER NOW.

MORE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO KNOW WHO I AM, AND I THINK WE MIGHT HAVE TO MOVE.

OR SOMETHING.



YEAH, AGENTS VISITING THE HOUSE...

DID YOU EVEN DECIDE IF YOU'RE GOING TO WORK FOR STARK, OR GO BACK TO M.I.T. OR BECOMING A FULL-TIME SUPER HERO?



OH, YEAH!

I DID.

I HAVE SEEN THE FUTURE!



NEXT: FIVE THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT TONY STARK.

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** and don't forget to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT!"

Welcome back, Shell-Heads! Assistant editor Alanna Smith here once again, choosing to answer your questions because it's more fun than doing the mountain of work I've got in front of me right now. Hello there!

I believe I mentioned this in the previous letters page, but just last week, Riri showed up in **CHAMPIONS** #11--and she looked heckin' gorgeous thanks to Humberto Ramos, Victor Olazaba and Edgar Delgado. Look at our girl go!



You can find it in your comics store now! Be sure to pick it up! And in the meantime, let's get to your letters!

Hi, Alanna.

I'm a Japanese Marvel Comics fan and started reading **INVINCIBLE IRON MAN** recently (sometimes using a dictionary).

I'm still new to comics so I have lots of things to learn about the Marvel Universe, but reading Riri's story is a lot of fun! (The conversations between Riri and A.I. Tony are especially funny.)

In Japan, Iron Man is a very popular hero too, thanks to the movies. But to be honest, there are only a few people who read American comics in Japan. I wish more Japanese would read Marvel Comics, not only watch movies.

Thank you for these great comics and I'm looking forward to reading more issues!

Kei Iwata

Hey, Kei! I actually grew up reading manga, and for a while I felt like I was one

of the only people reading it, aside from a few cousins and friends--and then, one day, it was suddenly everywhere! Maybe it'll be the same for American comics over there, and you'll wake up one day to find that everyone and their grandmother is reading them! You'll be able to say that you were the cool person who discovered them first, and everyone will come to you for comics wisdom!

Even if that doesn't happen, I hope you find some friends to read comics with soon!

Brian M.,

I love it--an excellent issue, art and story! Big comeback issue (as I usually say)! So is this Lady von Bardas, from Latveria, gonna take a page from Lady Octopus' book and become: Lady Doom?! I bet that actually happens. Or will she be Dr. Bard instead? The cover to **IIM** #8 seems to suggest that Riri's secret ID is out! The issue wasn't like that...what gives? Nor was this **SECRET EMPIRE**-related! You're missing out; just saying.

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

Nah, Lucia's probably gonna stay Lucia--with a name as naturally villain-y as Lucia von Bardas, why wouldn't she? And as for Riri's secret identity, that cover was meant to refer more to her arc as a character (experiencing sudden popularity) than her revealing her identity--which she's really done a terrible job of keeping secret until this point. I think if she tried to have a big reveal party now, everyone would be like, "Were we...not supposed to know who you are?"

Also, Riri's plenty involved in **SECRET EMPIRE** proper, so anything we did here would have felt a bit redundant. We're still telling her pre-**SECRET EMPIRE** story at this point, and we wanted to see that through rather than do tie-ins here.

Hi,

Okay, I do like the character Ironheart. The name is really cool, too. Riri is growing on me as a character also, seeing where you guys are going with her. Don't forget the character that made this book great! I hope we don't have to wait too long to see the return of Iron Man. Tony Stark is a great character--a little high and mighty but still a cool character. Someone you hate and love at the same time.

It was **AWESOME** seeing Rescue again. I love that Pepper Potts is getting her chance to shine. She is a great character, and I for one can't get enough of her. I want to see more of her all over Marvel Universe--even join one of the Avengers teams, maybe A-Force. She was amazing in hand-to-hand combat. She must have been taught by Captain America or by the Black Widow on how to defend and handle herself very well in a fight. I was blown away seeing her in action. Just because A-Force doesn't have a monthly book doesn't mean that they aren't together still. So more A-Force, please.

King Jason

I miss A-FORCE too, Your Majesty--and I hope we get to do more of it! Rescue always came up in discussions about that book, but we were never quite able to get her through the door. It can be hard to change up a team that's so close-knit! Still, I'm sure we'll be seeing more of Pepper in this book sooner or later--she's just too great to stay on the sidelines!

That's all from me for this month! But before I go, a friendly heads-up--**GENERATIONS: THE IRON** #1 is coming out in a few short weeks, before **INVINCIBLE IRON MAN** #11, and if you're a fan of Riri AND Tony, you do not want to miss it! Brian's writing and Marco Rudy's on art duties--and here's a sneak peek just for you!



Shh--don't tell Tom I let you see it! I have to flee before he finds me out. Stay cool, and see you next month!

-Invincible Alanna Smith

NEXT ISSUE:



FIVE THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT TONY STARK!

